

Tom Horne
Superintendent

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ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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Friday, January 31, 2003
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**STATE SUPERINTENDENT TOM HORNE TO ANNOUNCE
“ARIZONA SAVES” PLAN**

**PLAN WILL SAVE GENERAL FUND ONE-THIRD OF
A BILLION DOLLARS PER YEAR IN CONSTRUCTION COSTS,
PERMITTING STATE TO RESTORE FUNDS FOR EDUCATION
KIDS CARE AND UNIVERSITIES**

WILL RESTORE LOCAL CONTROL OF CONSTRUCTION

PHOENIX (Friday, January 31, 2003) – Tom Horne, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, will announce a plan to revamp Arizona capital finance, known as “Arizona Saves.” The plan has substantial bi-partisan support at the legislature, as detailed below. This plan will save the State’s general fund one-third of a billion dollars per year, enabling the legislature to restore funds for education, Kids Care, and universities.

The plan will eliminate most functions of the State Facilities Board, and will restore building responsibility to local school districts. The plan will meet all constitutional requirements set forth by the Arizona Supreme Court, through leveraged subsidies to property-poor districts. As described below, the plan already has substantial bi-partisan support in the Arizona Legislature.

Details and justification of the plan will be presented at a press conference on the Capitol lawn **Monday, February 3, 2003, at 11:00 a.m.** In addition to Tom Horne, speakers at the press conference will include Jim Weiers (R. Glendale); and Linda Aguirre (D. Phoenix), co-prime sponsors of the bill; Toni Hellon (R. Tucson) Chair of the Senate Education Committee; Barbara Robey, Director of Government Relations, Arizona School Boards Association.

(MORE)

(Page 2)

The following legislative co-sponsors of the bill:

Mark Anderson (R. District 18); Jorge Luis Garcia (D. District 27); Linda Binder (R. District 3); Bill Brotherton (D. District 14); John Allen (R. District 7); Linda Lopez (D. District 29); Ray Barnes (R. District 7); Marsha Arzberger (D. District 25); Jim Carruthers (R. District 24); Phil Hanson (R. District 9); Steve Gallardo (D. District 13); John Huppenthal (R. District 20); John Nelson (R. District 12); Warde Nichols (R. District 21); Steven Yarbrough (R. District 21); Pete Hershberger (R. District 26); Timothy S. Bee (R. District 30); Clancy Jayne (R. District 6); Carolyn Allen (R. District 8); and Steve Tully (R. District 11);

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